

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4704

May 13, 2019

The Honorable K. Jane Williams  
Acting Administrator  
Federal Transit Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Acting Administrator Williams:

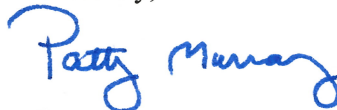
I am writing in support of an application submitted by the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for the Federal Transit Administration's *Passenger Ferry Grant Program* for the Elevated Pedestrian Connector (EPC) project at the Seattle Multimodal Terminal at Colman Dock in Seattle, Washington.

WSDOT Ferries Division is seeking a Passenger Ferry Grant to build a 21 thousand square foot pedestrian plaza to serve foot passengers on the Seattle-Bainbridge Island and Seattle-Bremerton ferry routes, as well as users of passenger-only ferry (POF) service provided by King County Marine Division and Kitsap Transit to and from Vashon Island, West Seattle, and Kingston. The facility would provide foot passengers with seamless connections from the main terminal and POF facilities on the southern edge of Colman Dock to accessible bus stops, taxi and drop off points on Alaskan Way. It would also provide a new overhead pedestrian bridge. The EPC is part of a larger project to upgrade and modernize Colman Dock and the Seattle Terminal with the goal of improving operational efficiencies, reduce ferry dwell times, and enhance safety for pedestrian and bicycle commuters.

As the largest ferry system in the nation, WSDOT Ferries Division is a core component of Puget Sound's regional transportation network. The Seattle Terminal served 10 million riders in 2018, including 5.7 million walk-on passengers and bicyclists. Walk-on ridership at the terminal is expected to grow by 53 percent between now and 2040, and the Passenger Ferry Grant would serve as a much needed early investment in preparation for this growth. Already, WSDOT has secured \$370 million in state, local, and federal funding for the reconstruction of Colman Dock and the Seattle Terminal, and the EPC facility is another important piece of this larger project to ensure safe and efficient access for bicycles, pedestrians, and vehicles.

Thank you for your consideration of the Washington State Department of Transportation's application. Please contact Flannery Fox in my Washington, D.C. office at 202-224-2621 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Patty Murray  
United States Senator